

Message Text

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12

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FM AMEMBASSY BUCHAREST

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9615

INFO USIA WASHDC

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

AMEMBASSY BELGRADE

UNCLAS BUCHAREST 3449

STATE FOR CU/EE

USIA FOR IEE

VIENNA FOR RPO

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC RO (GILL, BRENDAN; FOSTER, PAUL)

SUBJ: STAGS IN THEATRE ARTS

REF: STATE 169878

1. WE APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT AND AGENCY CONCERN OVER OUR "CAPABILITIES" FOR EFFECTIVELY PROGRAMMING GILL AND FOSTER AND HASTEN TO POINT OUT THAT OUR FALL PROGRAMMING SCHEDULE HERE IS ALWAYS VERY HEAVY IN VIEW OF OUR DESIRE TO MAINTAIN FULL AND EFFECTIVE PUBLIC AFFAIRS PROGRAM. (FYI: ATTENTION IS INVITED TO OUR OCTOBER 1972 SCHEDULE WHEN POST SUCCESSFULLY PROGRAMMED SIMULTANEOUS MAJOR EVENTS SUCH AS EDUTECH EXHIBITION AT BUCHAREST TRADE FAIR, ALVIN NIKOLAIS DANCE COMPANY, SCHOLDER-CANNON ART EXHIBIT, AND THE U.S.-ROMANIAN DAVIS CUP MATCHES, IN ADDITION TO NORMAL RANGE OF ACTIVITIES WHICH INCLUDED USIA ORIENTATION TOUR, POST INSPECTION, AND CODEL. END FYI) ACCORDINGLY, WE HAVE REVIEWED OUR "PROGRAMMING AND SUPPORT" ABILITIES AND WISH TO REAFFIRM OUR INTEREST IN BOTH GILL AND FOSTER FOR EARLY OCTOBER.

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2. MEANWHILE, HOWEVER, PRIOR TO PROCEEDING FURTHER ON PROPOSED FOSTER VISIT, POST WOULD APPRECIATE DEPARTMENT CHECKING WITH FOSTER TO DETERMINE IF HE INTENDS TO MAKE PRIVATE VISIT HERE DURING PERIOD AUGUST 12-15. POST HAS HEARD FROM LIVIU CIULEI (BUCHAREST 2765, PARA 2) THAT FOSTER PLANS SUCH A VISIT. THIS WOULD, OBVIOUSLY, DILUTE OUR INTEREST IN AN OCTOBER PROGRAM AND WE WOULD NEED TO RECONSIDER. PLEASE ADVISE SOONEST.

3. POST'S PRESENT CONCEPTION OF GILL PROGRAMMING CONSISTS OF COMBINATION OF OFF-PREMISES AND ON-PREMISES ACTIVITIES INCLUDING PUBLIC LECTURE AT LIBRARY, ROUNDTABLE FOR DRAMA CRITICS AT LIBRARY, ROUNDTABLE FOR ROMANIAN DRAMATISTS AT WRITER' UNION, LECTURE AT THEATER ARTS INSTITUTE, AND TRAVEL TO ONE PROVINCIAL CITY (IASI) FOR TWO PROGRAM EVENTS OF SIMILAR NATURE. WE PREFER FIVE FULL PROGRAMMING DAYS WHICH, COMBINED WITH TWO TRAVEL DAYS, TOTAL ONE WEEK VISIT. WE SUGGEST TIME-FRAME SEPTEMBER 30-OCTOBER 12.

4. FOSTER PROGRAM WOULD BE ESSENTIALLY OFF-PREMISES WITH LIVIU CIULEI AS LOCAL HOST. FORMAL PROGRAM ELEMENTS WOULD INCLUDE WRITERS' UNION ROUNDTABLE, AND LIBRARY AND OTHER EVENTS SIMILAR TO THOSE DESCRIBED FOR GILL. PRIMARY FOSTER FOCUS WOULD BE, HOWEVER, CIULEI'S PRODUCTION OF "ELIZABETH I" INCLUDING MAJOR REPRESENTATIONAL ACTIVITY FOR CAST AND SIGNIFICANT THEATRE PERSONALITIES. NO PROVINCIAL TRAVEL ENVISIONED FOR FOSTER. AS POINTED OUT IN BUCHAREST 2765, POST PREFERS SEVEN-DAY VISIT IF POSSIBLE.

5. IDEALLY, SOME PORTIONS OF GILL AND FOSTER VISITS WOULD OVERLAP TO ALLOW FOR LIBRARY PANEL DISCUSSION FORMAT (WITH TWO ROMANIAN PANELISTS) MENTIONED REFTEL. DUAL WRITERS' UNION ROUNDTABLE WOULD BE PARTICULARLY EFFECTIVE IN OUR VIEW.

6. SINGLE POTENTIAL SCHEDULING DIFFICULTY IS THAT LIBRARY FACILITIES ARE COMMITTED FOR "AMERICAN MUSIC WEEK" FOLLOWING OCTOBER 14. OFF-PREMISES ELEMENTS OF PROGRAMS CAN BE SCHEDULED FOR THIS PERIOD OR, MORE APPROPRIATELY, BELGRADE'S INTEREST CAN BE ACCOMMODATED DURING THE OCTOBER 14-20 PERIOD.
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7. ONCE AGAIN, POST WISHES TO POINT OUT THAT PROPOSED GILL/FOSTER PROGRAMS OFFER UNUSUAL OPPORTUNITY OF SOME SIGNIFICANCE TO TIE U.S. PROGRAMMING TO POWERFUL IMPACT HERE OF CIULEI'S "ELIZABETH."

8. POST HAS NO INTEREST IN RETURN VISIT OF DAN ISAACS.
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